

REMARKS

This Reply is a timely response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated November 2, 2007 in which the Examiner indicated that "Applicant has assumed that the amendments filed on 8/2/07 [Amendment D] ... had been entered when in fact these amendments had not been entered...."

In response, although Applicants had relied on the RCE cover sheet paragraph stating "If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s)."

Nevertheless, Applicants understand the ambiguity introduced by the non-checking of Box 1a of the RCE cover sheet.

To rule out any ambiguity, Applicant submits herewith a Response to the Notice of Noncompliant Amendment presenting claims to be entered as the current claims under examination, representing the combination of the claim amendments presented after final (Amendment D) and the claim amendments presented with the RCE (Amendment E).

The remarks and arguments remain the same as in Amendment E.

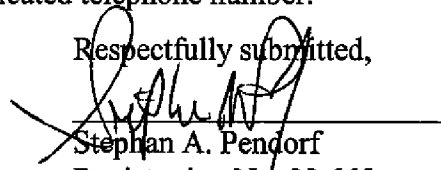
No additional fee is believed due for submission of this Response; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment in fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

U.S. Application No.: 10/502,132

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANT AMENDMENT Attorney Docket: 3968-120

Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. Should further issues remain prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephan A. Pendorf', is written over a horizontal line.

Date: December 3, 2007

Stephan A. Pendorf

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